

Please amend the claims as follows.

a²

1. (amended) [In] a particulate drug delivery composition for intranasal delivery comprising a plurality of bioadhesive microspheres comprising a material selected from the group consisting of polysaccharides, proteins, and synthetic polymers, wherein the polysaccharide is selected from the group consisting of a starch, a dextran, a hyaluronic acid, a gellan gum and pectin and the protein is selected from the group consisting of gelatin, albumin, and collagen, and a systemically active drug selected from the group consisting of proteins and peptides, and non-protein drugs selected from the group consisting of antibiotics, anesthetics, vasoconstrictors, cardiotonics, vasodilators, antiseptics, bone metabolism controlling agents, hypotensives, sedatives, anti-tumour agents, anti-inflammatory agents, anti-histaminic agents, anti-allergic agents, and antitussive-expectorant agents, [the improvement comprising that] wherein at least 90 wt % of the microspheres of the composition have a diameter of between 0.1 μ m and 10 μ m, and wherein the composition is capable of systemic delivery of a therapeutically effective amount of the drug to a mammal upon intranasal administration.

a³

3. (amended) A drug delivery composition according to Claim 1 or 2 wherein the microspheres comprise starch, [starch derivatives], gelatin, albumin, collagen, or dextran [or dextran derivatives].